

shifted to a new position, one caterpillar in its cocoon began a whirring, clicking noise. This appears to be made when the caterpillar, feeling disturbed, begins either to turn rapidly around, or from side to side in the cocoon.

On the night of March 16, 1953, after a thunder storm, two female moths emerged from their cocoons. Next evening, one of the moths laid her eggs, which were attached with a sticky substance to the wire mesh on the box. Moths also emerged from the two remaining cocoons.

A search about trees and other likely places did not reveal any more of that season's cocoons. Perhaps the dry season may have been the reason for the scarcity of the caterpillars and their cocoons.

During the morning of March 30, hairy caterpillars about  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch in length hatched from the moth's eggs. Fresh jam phyllodes were fed to the young caterpillars which soon moved up the jam branch to feed on the phyllodes. After feeding, they rested on the box top and sides. The little caterpillars were voracious feeders and soon began to grow. The caterpillars were kept in captivity until May 18 when the box, with the lid off, was placed at a jam tree in natural surroundings. The caterpillars would leave the box at evening, usually about 7.30 p.m. and ascend the jam tree to feed on the phyllodes. Many of the caterpillars returned to the box after feeding and they continued life in this way during the following months.

On October 7 about fifty very large caterpillars, all about 3 inches in length, were resting in the box. A small number of cocoons had been made in a group at the bottom of the box and two cocoons had been made on a wheat sack which was used for covering the box. A large amount of "dirt" and cast skins had accumulated in the box. Only two caterpillars were found resting outside on a piece of board. The winter rains had been exceptionally heavy, but it apparently had not affected the caterpillars.

At the end of October only a small number of caterpillars remained in the box. By November 17 there were no caterpillars in the box, but a large number of cocoons were in a group at the bottom of it.

## FROM FIELD AND STUDY

**Name of a Jockey Beetle—a Correction.**—In my article on the jockey beetle in the *W.A. Naturalist*, vol. 2, no. 6, p. 132, I referred to it as *Chlamydopsis duboulayi*. The correct name for the species discussed and figured is, however, *Chlamydopsis loculosa* Lea. The error was brought about by comparing my material with a mis-named specimen in the collection of the W.A. Museum.

—R. P. McMILLAN, Cannington.

**Spotted Harrier at Busseton.**—In his review of the bird irruptions in 1952 D. L. Serventy stated that the Spotted Harrier (*Circus assimilis*) had not hitherto been recorded in the South-